Green Procurement Program

Fort Wainwright, Alaska
Environmental Officer Course
2011

Outline

I. Define Green Procurement
II. Identify Regulatory Drivers
III. Identify Benefits and Reasons for Program
IV. Environmental Officer Responsibilities

Definition

- A program that encompasses federal procurement (purchasing) programs
  - Affirmative Procurement
  - Energy Star
  - Environmental Preferable
- Requires all defense programs to purchases green (environmentally friendly) services
  - To maximum extent practicable

Regulations

- RCRA required the EPA to
  - recommendations and guidance on buying recycled-content designate products that are or can be made with recovered materials
  - EPA published Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPGs) to designate products , and Recovered Materials Advisory Notices (RMANs) to provide recycled-content products
- Farm and Rural Security Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill)
  - to designate items that can be made with biobased materials (products made with renewable agricultural or forestry materials).

Regulations

- Regulations require any Federal agency purchaser (or person acting on behalf of a Federal agency) procuring designated products to purchase those items composed of recovered or biobased materials.
- Compliance with the CPGs and biobased purchasing regulations is REQUIRED for credit card purchases.

Understanding CPG

- "Postconsumer content"
  - Amount of material in the product that was used by a consumer and recycled
- "Total recovered material content"
  - total amount of material in the product that was recycled or diverted from being disposed of as a waste – regardless of its source.

Examples of CPG

Product	Postconsumer content %	Total Recovered Materials Content %
Printing Paper	30%	-
Bathroom tissue	20-60%	20-100%
Playground surfaces	90-100% rubber or plastic	-
Playground equipment	90-100% postconsumer content	100% recovered plastic

USDA Biobased Requirements

- Biobased components - Any intermediary biobased materials or parts that, in combination with other components, are functional parts of the biobased product.

- Biobased content - Biobased content shall be determined based on the amount of biobased carbon in the material or product as a percent of weight (mass) of the total organic carbon in the material or product.

- Biobased product - A product determined by USDA to be a commercial or industrial product (other than food or feed) that is composed, in whole or in significant part, of biological products or renewable domestic agricultural materials (including plant, animal, and marine materials) or forestry materials.

Biobased Product Examples

- 51 Products Total

Product	% Biobased
Sorbents	89%
Glass Cleaners	49%
Floor Strippers	78%
Parts Wash Solutions	65%
Corrosion Preventatives	53%

Executive Order 13423

- Each agency shall give preference in their procurement and acquisition programs to the purchase of:
  - Recycled content products designated in EPA's Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines.
  - Energy Star® products identified by DOE and EPA, as well as FEMP-designated energy-efficient products.
  - Water-efficient products, including those meeting EPA's Water Sense standards.
  - Energy from renewable sources.
  - USDA Biobased products.
  - EPEAT-registered electronic products.
  - Alternative fuel vehicles and alternative fuels required by EPA.
  - Products with low or no toxic or hazardous constituents.
  - Non-ozone depleting substances, as identified in EPA's Significant New Alternatives Program.

Executive Order 13514

- EO 13514 Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance
  - Ensure 95% of all new contracts, including non-exempt contract modifications, require products and services that are energy-efficient, water-efficient, biobased, environmentally preferable, non-ozone depleting, contain recycled-content, non-toxic or less-toxic alternatives.
    - Procure Energy Star and FEMP-designated electronic equipment
    - Reduce paper use and acquire paper containing at least 30% postconsumer fiber
    - Minimize the acquisition, use, and disposal of toxic and hazardous materials

Compliance Monitoring

- EPA Facility Questionnaires
- EPA RCRA and Multimedia Inspections
- Reports of Purchases (such as ERLS)
- Environmental Performance Assessment System (EPAS) Findings*
- IG Inspections

Benefits

- Boosts agricultural economy
- Saves energy and therefore money
- Conserves resources for future population
- Reduces pollution
- Saves land from having to be used as a landfill
- Promotes American ingenuity

IMPAC Card Holders

- Be familiar with the EPA and USDA designated items.
  - Environmental products can be viewed and purchased from the GSA*Advantage!*® and GSA Global Supply online purchasing systems.
  - https://www.gsaglobalsupply.gsa.gov/advantage/search/advsearch.do
- Keep a list of the designated items handy for easy referral when purchasing.
  - Current CPG Product Supplier Directory list available at: http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/cpg/database.htm

IMPAC Card Holders

- Maximize your purchases of recycled-content and biobased products by:
  - Ensure that one of the **allowable exemptions** applies if CPGs are not met for any purchase FAR 23.404 (b):
    - (1) Agency affirmative procurement programs require 100 percent of purchases of EPA or USDA-designated items contain recovered material or biobased content, unless the item cannot be acquired-
      - Competitively within a reasonable time frame;
      - Meeting reasonable performance standards; or
      - At a reasonable price.
    - (2) EPA and USDA may provide categorical exemptions for items that they designate, when procured for a specific purpose.
      - Spacecraft system and launch support equipment.
      - Military equipment, *i.e.*, a product or system designed or procured for combat or combat-related missions.

EO Responsibilities

- Participate or ensure unit/organization participation in HMMP Committee.
- Ensure IMPAC card holders are aware and consider green services and products when possible.
- Document and maintain training records.

END

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